## **PsychoGenics Licenses Huntington Disease Model**

## PsychoGenics to provide testing services in the R6/2 Mouse Model for Huntington Disease

<u>July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005</u> – PsychoGenics Inc. Tarrytown, New York has signed a license agreement enabling it to provide behavioral phenotyping and compound evaluation services using the transgenic R6/2 mouse model for Huntington Disease.

Huntington Disease is a devastating and ultimately fatal neurological condition for which no treatment currently exists. The Huntington animal model provides a valuable discovery tool to aid in the development of much needed drugs.

Under the terms of the license agreement, PsychoGenics is now able to provide third-party testing in the R6/2 model. The terms of the agreement are undisclosed, however, there are no reach-through obligations on PsychoGenics' clients.

The R6/2 mouse model exhibits impairments in motor and cognitive abilities that are consistent with clinical progression of Huntington Disease and is considered a benchmark model for Huntington Disease research. Animals develop motor deficits as early as 4 weeks of age with severe and rapid progression of the disease to approximately 16 weeks of age. The consistent disease progression makes the model excellent for efficient, reliable and cost-effective testing of drug candidates for Huntington Disease.

"We are very excited about this agreement because it allows us to make this model widely available to companies and research institutions, and facilitate the discovery of drugs to treat Huntington Disease," said Dr David Pushett, PsychoGenics' Vice President for Business Development.

PsychoGenics' experience, scientific and data handling capabilities, and resources, have led to the provision of comprehensive drug testing services in a variety of different behavior paradigms and CNS models, including the R6/2 model. PsychoGenics, together with the High-Q Foundation has developed standardized and validated protocols suitable for testing the efficacy of potential drug candidates for Huntington Disease that include assessments of deficits in motor and cognitive behavior during disease progression.

"We selected PsychoGenics to conduct the evaluation of drug candidates for Huntington Disease because of their established high quality behavioral tests. We are delighted that PsychoGenics has secured this license which now allows the Huntington Disease community access to PsychoGenic's wealth of standardized and validated protocols established in collaboration with the High-Q Foundation", explained Dr Ethan Signer, Senior Scientific Advisor to the High-Q foundation.

## **About PsychoGenics:**

PsychoGenics is a leader in preclinical behavioral neurobiology and a provider of customized and innovative solutions for central nervous system drug discovery. PsychoGenics works with

pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, academic institutions and not-for-profit research foundations to address such major neurological disorders as: ADHD, anxiety, cognitive impairment, depression, psychosis/schizophrenia, mania, obesity, and sexual dysfunction. PsychoGenics supports the understanding and treatment of CNS disorders by offering an extensive range of established and customized solutions, including validated in vivo behavioral tests, genotyping, behavioral pharmacology, phenotyping, neuromorphology, bioinformatics, microdialysis and radiotelemetry.

For more information on PsychoGenics Inc. and its services contact: David Pushett, Ph.D.

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